

ASCIDIA SINGULARIS GUNNERUS, 1770 AND *DISTOMUS*
MAMILLARIS PALLAS, 1774 : PROPOSED SUPPRESSION;
POLYCARPA HELLER, 1877 (TUNICATA, ASCIDIACEA) PROPOSED
 TYPE-SPECIES DESIGNATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS
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Gunnerus (1770 : 166–168, pl. e, figs. 1–6) described *Ascidia singularis* from Trondheimsfjorden but the name was unnoticed for many years.

2. Pallas, (1774 : 24–25) using a name of C. F. Gaertner, described *Distomus mamillaris* from Cornwall, a species which Hartmeyer (1915 : 325) found to be synonymous with *A. singularis*.

3. Savigny (1816 : 156–157) described what is agreed to be the same species from the coast of France, as *Cynthia pomaria*. This name together with some junior synonyms (cf. Hartmeyer, 1912a : 195–196; 1923 : 273–275) came in general use for the species in question, a widely distributed species along the European coasts.

4. Hartmeyer (1912a : 195; 1912b : 379) reused the name *singularis* as a senior synonym of *Polycarpa pomaria* (Savigny). He used the name *singularis* in two later publications (Hartmeyer 1914 : 430; 1915a : 325–326).

5. In 1915 *pomaria* was designated a “*nomen conservandum*” for the species, which was also stated to be the type-species for the genus *Polycarpa* Heller, 1877 (Hartmeyer, 1915b : 251; Hartmeyer et al. 1915 : 186). The type-species of *Polycarpa* is *Polycarpa varians* Heller, 1877, by original designation. However, a revision of Heller's type (Hartmeyer, 1923 : 276) revealed that it was conspecific with *Cynthia pomaria* Savigny, 1816. As the current concept of the genus is in agreement with Hartmeyer's designation of *Cynthia pomaria* as type-species of *Polycarpa*, stability would best be served by using the plenary powers to set aside the original designation and conserve *pomaria* as type-species of this genus.

6. The genus *Polycarpa* Heller, 1877, as proposed as a “*nomen conservandum*” in the sense of Apstein has remained in general use and appears to be the oldest and thus valid name for the genus as far as we have been able to find.

7. The specific names *singularis* and *mamillaris* have only been mentioned in synonymy (Hartmeyer, 1923 : 273–275) and *pomaria* has been in general use since 1923. A list of references for *pomaria* in accordance with the requirements of Article 79(b) is given at the end of this paper.

8. Therefore, the International Commission is asked to

(1) use its plenary powers to

(a) set aside all designations of type-species for the genus *Polycarpa* Heller, 1877, made prior to the ruling here requested and

(b) having done so to designate the nominal species *Cynthia pomaria* Savigny, 1816, to be the type-species of that genus;

- (c) rule that the specific name *pomaria* Savigny, 1816 as published in the binomen *Cynthia pomaria*, is to be given precedence over the specific names *singularis* Gunnerus, 1770, as published in the binomen *Ascidia singularis*, and *mamillaris* Pallas, 1774, as published in the binomen *Distomus mamillaris*, by any zoologist who considers that those names, or *pomaria* and any other of them apply to the same species-group taxon;
- (2) place the name *Polycarpa* Heller, 1877 (gender: feminine), type-species *Cynthia pomaria* Savigny, 1816, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) (b) above, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
- (a) *pomaria* Savigny, 1816, as published in the binomen *Cynthia pomaria* (the name of the type-species of *Polycarpa* Heller, 1877) with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the specific names *Ascidia singularis* Gunnerus, 1770 and *Distomus mamillaris* Pallas, 1774, by any zoologist who considers that those names or *pomaria* and any other of them, refer to the same species-group taxon;
- (b) *singularis* Gunnerus, 1770, as published in the binomen *Ascidia singularis* with the endorsement that the name is not to be used by any zoologist who considers that the name refers to the same species-group taxon as the name *Cynthia pomaria* Savigny, 1816;
- (c) *mamillaris* Pallas, 1774, as published in the binomen *Distomus mamillaris*, with the endorsement that the name is not to be used by any zoologist who considers that the name refers to the same species-group taxon as the name *Cynthia pomaria* Savigny, 1816.

REFERENCES

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